From: Harvey Tuch
To: Devereux, Jan
Subject: Re: Say No to Mass Against HP
Date: Saturday, April 21, 2018 5:50:16 PM

Thanks Jan; it's good to know that you folks are on top of this. The Mass Against HP website (http://www.massagainsthp.org/) seems to be calling for Cambridge to be the start of this movement, I'm glad to hear the council is not actively considering this.

On Sat, Apr 21, 2018 at 5:45 PM Devereux, Jan <jdevereux@cambridgema.gov> wrote:

> Harvey,
>
> There's been a good deal of misinformation about a boycott resolution from both sides. It's not before the Council and I doubt it will be, or that it would pass if it was.
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> Jan
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> Jan Devereux
>
> Vice Mayor
>
> Cambridge, MA
>
> jdevereux@cambridgema.gov
>
> For updates on City Council issues and events visit http://jandevereux.com/
>
> *All emails to and from this City address should be considered subject to Massachusetts Public Records Laws.*
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>
> **From:** Harvey Tuch <h@tuch.id.au>
> **Sent:** Saturday, April 21, 2018 5:17:53 PM
> **To:** Devereux, Jan
> **Subject:** Fwd: Say No to Mass Against HP
>
> Hi Jan,
>
> I was a huge supporter of you at the last election and really value the work you do for the city. I'm hoping as Vice Mayor you will be able to consider the below position when any

motion to support Mass Against HP arises. I know that you, like the rest of the council, are deeply committed to supporting the diversity of Cambridge, including the Jews who live here, many of who have strong affinity with Israel and do not want to see discriminatory government policy.

Thanks,
Harvey

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Harvey Tuch <h@tuch.id.au>
Date: Sat, Apr 21, 2018 at 5:11 PM
Subject: Say No to Mass Against HP
To: council@cambridgema.gov <council@cambridgema.gov>

Hi Cambridge Council,

It's come to my attention that a group known as "Mass Against HP" plans to present a resolution seeking to sever ties between Cambridge and HP at the 4/23 meeting. A key platform of this group is (quoting from their website) to "to end contracts with Hewlett-Packard (HP) until the company ends its corporate complicity in the Israeli occupation of Palestine".

As a Cambridge resident, tax payer, voter and member of the Jewish community, I'm deeply disturbed by this resolution on a number of accounts, and I urge the city council to vote against any such proposal. I do not want my tax dollars to be used in a manner that effectively discriminates against the state and people of Israel, and I do not want to have the City adopt a policy representative of this.

I'd like to begin by pointing out that there is room for legitimate debate on the politics of the Mid East and foreign policy, including human rights, and also that I'm sure the City Councilors who may be supportive of "Mass Against HP" are acting with the best of intentions. However, singling out Israel via a boycott is highly problematic. Whether or not it is the intention, applying a policy that is aimed at punishing the only Jewish state in the world in the name of human rights, while ignoring actions of states such as China and Russia, routine and gross violators of human rights (see for example the recent gas attacks in Syria), is effectively a form of discrimination against the Jewish people, many of who have significant affinity with Israel.

As a Cambridge Jew, I want our city to be a beacon of hope in the world and a champion of minorities; adopting a policy that singles out Israel is akin to adopting a policy that only singles out Muslim countries (i.e. the recent US travel bans) or that singles out only African people/countries. Being effectively discriminatory is just as bad as doing it by intention.

Please don't let Cambridge become part of the state machinery of minority discrimination. I'm proud of our diversity, Cambridge Jews are part of this mix and I want to see official concern for our residents applied uniformly.

I'm also a technology professional and I'm acutely aware of how modern technology supply chains work. A modern compute system will have hardware and software components that derive from across a global supply chain, including from problematic regions such as China and conflict Africa (e.g. rare Earth metals, semiconductors, etc.) as well as Russia (e.g. security software). It is actually impossible to be consistent and rational in sourcing technology that avoids dependencies on regimes that are massive violators of human rights. When the most heinous of human rights violators can't be influenced via technology procurement policy, it's even further concerning that folks would seek to select out Israel, a vibrant liberal democracy in the midst of a region rife with autocratic and oppressive regimes.

I've also heard that some councilors have had access to the proposal in advance and have not chosen to share with the residents of Cambridge. In the interest of governmental transparency, I implore you to do so, so that we can be further engaged in the democratic process.

Thanks for taking the time to consider this feedback. I know the City councilors are hard working and feel strongly about tackling the challenges of our times, I hope the above provides perspective on why "Mass Against HP" is not the right approach for Cambridge.

Harvey